



Australia's banknotes represented a world first in currency manufacturing – they were the first full series to be printed on polymer (plastic). Polymer banknote technology was developed in Australia, jointly by the Reserve Bank and the CSIRO. The reason for introducing polymer banknotes was simple – to keep one step ahead of counterfeiters by making Australia's banknotes more secure. Polymer banknotes have the added benefit of being more durable than paper banknotes which, in turn, makes them more cost-effective.

The designs of the banknotes celebrate the diversity of Australia's social, cultural and scientific achievements.

The \$10 polymer banknote was first issued on 1 November 1993.



Dealing with suspect banknotes

It is an offence to knowingly possess counterfeits. Suspect banknotes should be given to State or Federal police.

If you have concerns about a banknote, you are within your rights to refuse to accept it.

If you suspect a banknote is counterfeit:

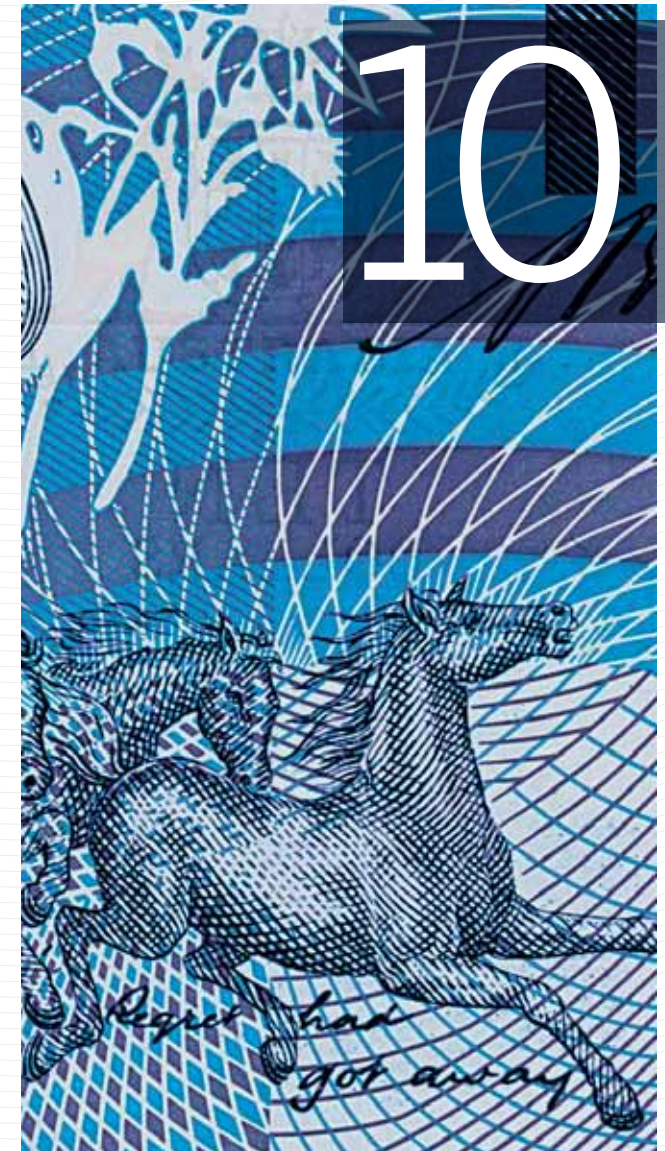
- Handle it as little as possible.
- Note relevant information, such as how it came into your possession.
- Report the matter immediately to the police.

Do not take actions that may jeopardise your safety or the safety of others.

If the suspect banknote is found to be genuine, you will receive full value for it.



AUSTRALIA'S BANKNOTES



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\$10 banknote

Who's who on the \$10 banknote

Andrew Barton (Banjo) Paterson, a poet and ballad writer, was born in rural New South Wales. He began his career as a solicitor and achieved fame in his thirties after writing *Waltzing Matilda* and *The Man from Snowy River*, the themes of which are depicted in the designs of the banknote. In fact, his first book, *The Man from Snowy River*, sold out its first edition in a week and went through four editions in six months, making Paterson second only to Rudyard Kipling in popularity among living poets writing in English at that time.

Dame Mary Gilmore campaigned for a wide range of social and economic reforms, such as votes for women, old-age and invalid pensions, child endowment and improved treatment of returned servicemen, the poor and Aboriginals. Sensitive to the conventions of the day, she guarded her early teaching career by writing under pseudonyms. Gilmore also published numerous volumes of prose and poetry on a range of subjects, particularly outback and rural themes. An excerpt from her poem 'No Foe Shall Gather Our Harvest' appears on the far left-hand side of the banknote, and is based on a letter written by Dame Mary on 2 March 1942. Excerpts from the poem also feature in the microprint.

Did you know?

The \$10 banknote is the only denomination in the polymer series to have something other than the value printed on it in microprint. The tiny, clearly defined print also shows the words to Banjo Paterson's *The Man from Snowy River* and Dame Mary Gilmore's 'No Foe Shall Gather Our Harvest'.

Did you know?

The 'Waltzing Matilda' logo that appears on the \$10 banknote was reproduced from the cover of the sheet music for the song, first published in 1903.

Is your banknote genuine?

- Always check a range of security features – don't rely on only one or two.
- It can be useful to compare a suspect banknote with one you know is genuine. Look for differences.
- All Australian banknotes have similar security features, though their location can vary.

1. Feel the banknote

Australian banknotes are printed on plastic and have a distinct feel. The dark printing is produced with a special raised ink that can be felt with your finger.

2. Check the clear window

The clear window should be part of the banknote and not an addition. Check that the white image of a windmill cannot be easily rubbed off and look for the clear embossing of a wave pattern.

3. Look for the star

Diamond-shaped patterns are printed inside a circle on each side of the banknote. When the banknote is held up to the light, the patterns should line up perfectly to form a seven-pointed star.

4. Check the shadow image

A hidden image of the Australian Coat of Arms to the right of Banjo Paterson's portrait can be seen when the banknote is held up to the light.

5. Look for the microprinting

Under a magnifying glass you will see tiny, clearly defined words near the portraits. The words of Paterson's and Gilmore's famous writings are shown, with the words 'TEN DOLLARS' printed between each stanza.



Actual banknote dimensions: 65 mm x 137 mm (images not to scale)

Examine the plastic

It is difficult to start a tear along the edge of a genuine banknote. You can also try scrunching it in your hand – a genuine banknote should spring back when you release it.

Check the print quality

The background printing should be sharp. Check for irregularities such as less clearly defined patterns, thicker or thinner lines, or colour differences.

Look at the banknote under UV light

The serial numbers on a genuine banknote will glow under ultraviolet light. The rest of the banknote should not glow under this light.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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